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James Hill to George Washington, December 13, 1772, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM MR. JAMES HILL.

Sunday Morng 13 Decr, 1772

SIR/

your man got down on monday last & I was up the country at The Quarter & did not Get down till fryday night & when I got Home found yr. Man Giles there & after makg. inquirery found your Letter was deliverd agreable to your Instructions But the Gent coud not get the Answers ready till, Satterday

& in respect to Mr. Fra foster ¹ whiles I was up the country I sent one of the overseers to him to know if he reced yr. Letter & he was from home & his wife told the overseer he had reced per Mr. Geo Webb whom I delivered it to Soon after you came away, But another of the overseers Met with Mr. Foster after sendg. to his house & he desird to know if I had any oppertunity of sendg. up to you that he had got fifty Pounds of the money & had no oppertunity of sendg. it to You & as Giles is down have thought Proper to send him By for one of the overseers to go with him to receive the money & send it up to you, but have been at a Loss to know whether I coud intrust him with so Large a sum or not as you did not write for him to bring it—tho I Shall write to Mr. foster that if any Accident shoud happen that the money does not get safe to hand yt. he must Stand to the Loss of it or send a man with it up to You, for you were in want of it, Ive not got the wts. & numbers

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of the Tobo. we have been so Extremely busy abt. Getg. our Corn in & my being up the Country the Inspecters dont attend the ware house Every day that I have not had it in my Power to get them yet for I have been up at your Quarter endeavourg to have the Ball of the Hogs got up for they have got 23 of them & coud find no more till a day or two before I got up the overseer got one of his Neighbours to Assist him Serch the Marsh & they Started two of yrs. As they suppose but got nare a one of them & one of the Neighbours was in Serch of his out in the woods & came upon Eight as he adjudged to be yrs. wch. they have not been got yet the overseer tells me he has been in Serch of them seven days But cant find ym., & my being from home at the time of the over Court have had no oppertunity of wrighting to Biggs abt. the oats But expect a vessell every day from the Eastern Shore for the corn Corn I sold to Mr. Wilkins the Ballce. of old Corn that I was tellg, you of Mr. Wilkins has Never Sent for it yet, & if he comes or Sends Shall have an oppertunity of wrightg, the its a matter of Doubt with me whether Biggs can get a vessell to go that distance with so Small Quantity—As they are not Allowd to take any in but yrs. for several of the Easten Shore men has told me that the freight of so Small Quantity would not be worth while going that Distants, tho will write to him to send them immediately if they are not Sent

When you was down you did not conclude what you woud Have done in Respect to the wheat mill Stones—

I have had at your Plantation 4 beeves Put in corn field & Several Mutton which are now fat & have directed the overseer to send them Down Expectg. to get a better Price for them in town then he coud up the Country But Roger Tandey was at worke in town with [manuscript torn] Carpenters & informs me that the muttons was so Plenty in [manuscript torn] this Cot that they sold at 7/6 which I shall endeavour to have y [manuscript torn] Stopt till the Meetg. of the Mercts. 25 Jany. I expect to make a very good Crop at ye Plantation in K William tho they hant finishd Getg the corn in nor wont till Next week

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I have got the wench down from the White house that was sick now takg a means from Doctor Pasteur she is Troubled with the Colleck is the cheafest of her complt.

The Little negroes at ye Plantation is without cloathg & if you chuse to have them any Thing Bought Please to write by the first oppertunity as their is but very Little Roles in ye Store not Enough to give them Shirts & Shifts or whether you intended to give them any thing er not our People has not near Enough Bro Ling nor Cotten to Cloat hym. I have got 40 lbs Bro Ling & 20 yds. Cotten & Expectmust get near as much Ling agn. to give them to make them two a piece

I have not reced any money for the Corn Chroshea Graves sold of yrs. nor dont Expect it till the Meeting of the Mercts. the 25 of Jany—

I have Been sadly Plagud to get Mr. Averends Answeres to yr. Letters—I wrote Expectg without fail to get the answers Satterday But Mr. Everend being from home his boys sent Back, the Answer was sent by some one Else & thought it did not seem fesable & sent Back to Mr. Everend & it was not sent & then his boys coud not be found wch obliges me to send on Monday Sunday morng. Mr. Craigs Answer I understand By Stanhope Vaughn is inclosed with Mr. Blairs—

from yr. Mo. Humble Servant JAS. HILL

1 Francis Foster.